Autonomy Antonymph @mintcarousel.bsky.social · 11d
if we're saying that animals fundamentally cannot consent with humans for sex (true) and we're saying the same for children (also true) are we not implying that children are subhuman?
i dont know if this line of thinking has merit tbh.
1 1

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i have a second thought: this really only applies if the lack of ability to consent is something innate to each potential participant individually. hinging this whole concept on innate qualities feels nonmaterialist: that there is an idea of a child which for innate reasons cannot do certain things
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for that reason, i think consent should be defined by the relationship between potential participants, not by the participants themselves.
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and that would be peerage. animals and humans are not and will never be peers. and that discrepancy i think is enough to say that consent between a human and an animal cannot happen.
1 1

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and the same goes for children. a 25 year old and a 12 year old are not peers. theyre both fully human, full autonomous persons, but they arent peers.
2 1

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so we're at the same conclusion, but now we arent implying that children are subhuman. now, in reality, children ARE being treated as subhumans. but this isnt the conversation for that. see the excellent "interact with children" essay.
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however this line of thinking has a certain implication for the age of consent. if we are disregarding innate qualities as the source of the ability to consent (even framing it as an ability is sus-
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- kids are fully autonomous human beings, they have the ability to consent.), then we have to rethink how we do AoC. setting a singular age to mark when a child becomes an adult doesnt make sense for the framework ive built here.
1 1

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so instead, AoC should be relative. there should be a socially agreed upon disparity of peerage between two potential participants. a forty and an 18 year old are probably not peers. an 18 and a 17 year old are.
1 1

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however i dont believe that the US, western, or even global society is ready to make this kind of assessment. not until we actually see and treat children as fully autonomous human persons.

July 12, 2025 at 12:46 PM

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Write your reply

Autonomy Antonymph @mintcarousel.bsky.social · 11d
regarding fiction: it doesnt apply. objects cant consent and you dont need to ask. in the same way you dont ask your vibrator for consent, i dont need to ask a drawing or a video game character, or a piece of animation for consent either. no matter what it depicts.
1 1

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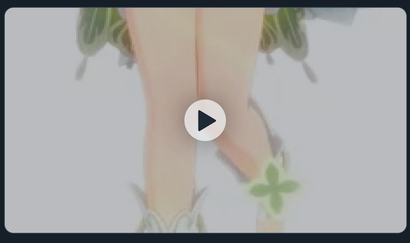
and lets say i get put into the genshin impact universe. i dont know how one could say that nahida is not my peer in intellect and maturity. so that is why nahida is wife



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